

Serial No. 10/726,208

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (canceled)

Claim 2 (currently amended): The tubular lock as claimed in claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3, wherein the fireproof cover is made of steel.

Claim 3 (currently amended): ~~[[The]]~~ A tubular lock ~~as claimed in claim 1,~~ comprising:

an inside assembly including an inside rose and an inside rose liner;

an outside assembly including an outside rose and an outside rose liner;

a latch mechanism including a latch;

at least one of the inside assembly and the outside assembly including a spindle operably connected to the latch for retracting the latch and a handle connected to the spindle to turn therewith; and

a fireproof cover including a longitudinal through-hole through which the spindle extends, the fireproof cover being mounted outside the outside rose liner and thus covering the outside rose liner;

the inside rose liner, the outside rose liner, and the fireproof cover being engaged together;

~~wherein~~ the outside rose liner ~~includes~~ including a housing extending from an inner face thereof, the housing including two mounting portions each having a screw hole, the inside rose liner including two holes respectively aligned with the screw holes of the outside rose liner, the fireproof cover including two legs each having an end piece on a distal end thereof, the respective end piece having a hole aligned with the respective screw hole of the outside rose liner, two screws being respectively extending through the holes of the inside rose liner and the holes of the fireproof cover into the screw holes of the outside rose liner.

Claim 4 (original): The tubular lock as claimed in claim 3, wherein the hole of the respective leg of the fireproof cover is a screw hole.

Claim 5 (original): The tubular lock as claimed in claim 3, wherein the housing includes two notches through which the legs of the fireproof cover respectively extend.

Claim 6 (original): The tubular lock as claimed in claim 3, wherein the respective leg of the fireproof cover has a length slightly greater than an axial length of the housing.

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Claim 7 (original): The tubular lock as claimed in claim 3, wherein the respective leg of the fireproof cover includes a protrusion, further including two spring clips respectively attached to the protrusions for retaining the legs of the fireproof cover in place.

Claim 8 (original): The tubular lock as claimed in claim 7, wherein the respective spring clip is a substantially U-shaped member including an intermediate portion and two hooks formed on two distal ends thereof, the intermediate portion of the respective spring clip abutting against the protrusion of the respective leg of the fireproof cover, with the hooks of the respective spring clip being engaged with an end wall of the housing.